
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 SOUTHEAST ALASKA EULACHON FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ketchikan. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following concerning eulachon (*Thaleichthys pacificus*) fisheries and eulachon closures for the 2013 season:

District 1: will be closed to commercial, personal use, and subsistence eulachon fishing in all waters. This includes the Unuk, Klahini, Carroll, and Chickamin Rivers, and all drainages on Revillagigedo Island and those drainages that flow into Behm Canal including those in Smeaton Arm;

Stikine River: will be closed to commercial eulachon fishing. The subsistence fishery will be open under state regulations to all residents of the State of Alaska;

Bradfield Canal: will be closed to commercial and subsistence eulachon fishing.

Many eulachon spawning runs throughout the Pacific coast, including Southeast Alaska, have had marked declines in recent years. Eulachon returned to several rivers in southern southeast Alaska in 2011 for the first time in recent years, including the first good return to the Unuk River since 2004. For the first time in recorded history, eulachon were documented on the Carroll River in 2011. Eulachon returns in 2012 varied by area but it is hoped that returns will continue to strengthen in the coming years.

Stock status information for each of the above areas is limited and the department feels a conservative approach is necessary for sustaining the health of these stocks.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1H0113.

